

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the present amendment.

Claim 5 has been cancelled.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite an air bag module for installation on a steering wheel, said air bag comprising a gas generator carrier and a covering cap which are connected with each other by a snap connection. U.S. 6,257,615 to Bohn et al. ("Bohn") does not disclose that covering cap 3 and mounting flange 7 are connected by a snap connection. Thus, Bohn does not disclose the air bag module recited in claim 1 and therefore, claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 2-4 depend from claim 1 and define over the prior art for the same reasons as claim 1 and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claims 2-4 constitute further limitations to allowable claim 1. Thus, claims 2-4 should be allowed.

Claim 6 recites an assembly of a steering wheel and an air bag module comprising a gas generator carrier and a covering cap which are connected with each other by a snap connection. Bohn does not disclose that covering cap 3 and mounting flange 7 are connected by a snap connection. Thus, Bohn does not disclose the assembly of a steering wheel and an air bag module as recited in claim 6 and therefore, claim 6 is allowable.

Claims 7-11 depend directly or indirectly from claim 6 and define over the prior art for the same reasons as claim 6 and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claims 7-11

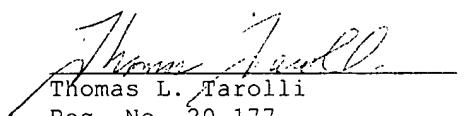
constitute further limitations to allowable claim 6. Thus, claims 7-11 should be allowed.

New claim 12 has been added by this amendment. Claim 12 recites all of the limitations of claims 1 and 5. Claim 12 recites an airbag module for installation in a steering wheel, said airbag module comprising a gas generator carrier (18) and a covering cap (16) which are connected with each other by a snap connection (22), characterized in that said gas generator carrier (18) has first projections (28) and said covering cap (16) has second projections (26) each associated to one of said first projections (28), one of said first projections (28) of said gas generator carrier (18) and an associated one of said second projections (26) of said covering cap (16) forming a common extension (24) which receives a first end (30a) of a helical spring (30) wherein at least one of said extensions (24) has a contact surface (34) for establishing an electrical contact. Accordingly, claim 12 is allowable.

Serial No. 10/637,111

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in
the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account
No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,


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